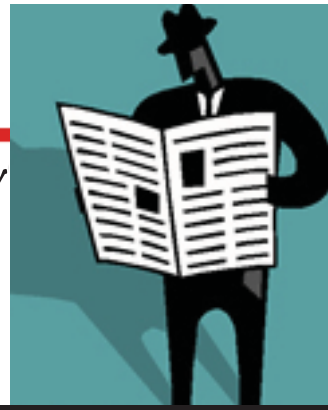


The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!

Laurens, Iowa



Vol. 1 No. 47

www.mylaurens.com

February 26, 2008

Local News



GO CHARGERS!

This young fan is just beside himself over the fact that the Chargers played so hard in the sub-state game against George Little Rock but didn't come away victorious. Not to worry though, he'll be back another day to chase victory, and so will the Chargers.

Congratulations to all the students of Laurens-Marathon that invested their skill and passion in boys and girls basketball, speech, wrestling, music and other public forums this winter. It may not register just yet, but you have created a lot of valuable experiences/memories for yourselves, as well as many members of the immediate and extended Laurens and Marathon communities.

GO CHARGERS!

More on the Chargers exciting road to Sub State on page 12!

Biggest Little Paper In Town!



Please help us in celebrating
The Paper's 1st year in business and
the Publisher, Rod's, 50th birthday!

We are celebrating at Rumors Pub on
Saturday, March 1st. There will be cake
and refreshments starting at 7:00 p.m.

Live Blues with The Erick Hovey Band
will begin at 8:30 p.m. until 12:30 p.m.



We hope that you will come and join us in
celebrating these two milestones!

SEE YOU SATURDAY!

The Paper
Our Town... Our Paper!



Vacationers

Dave and Terry Schossow returned on Tuesday, February 19th from Scottsdale, Arizona, where they were visiting their in-laws, Dan and Colleen (Schossow) Walsh the past week.

A little sunburned and a little tired, they had a marvelous time! They also visited Terry's cousins Larry and Kathy who also live in Scottsdale.

Everyone said they can't wait to have them return to Arizona on their next trip soon! A couple of wild and crazy people they are, but oh so much fun! Ask Dave to see the pictures...

Rena Sernett Selected for Papal Choir

Word was received on February 18th that Rena Sernett has been selected to be a member of the choir that will sing at the Papal Mass in Washington D.C. on April 17, 2008.

Rena was one of 250 members selected from the 500 that auditioned. Weekly practices will begin at once for the event. Rena is the daughter of Paul and Carol Sernett of Laurens.

Send Your News to

**The
Paper!**

Our Town Our Paper!



Engagement Announcement

Brian Halverson of Sioux Rapids and Ruth VanDer Sluis of Spirit Lake, are pleased to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Janell Halverson to Eric Karsten, son of Thomas Karsten and Karen Karsten of Newton.

Janell is a 1998 graduate of Laurens-Marathon High School and a 2002 graduate of University of Northern Iowa with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting. She is employed as a Manager at Deloitte & Touche L.L.P. in Cedar Rapids.

Eric is a 2000 graduate of Newton Senior High School and a 2001 graduate of Iowa Central Community College with a degree in Carpentry. He is employed at the Maytag Dairy Farm in Newton.

The couple is planning an April 5, 2008 wedding at the First Lutheran Church in Milford with a reception to follow at the Milford Community Building in Milford.

Valentine's Day King and Queen Crowned

Clayton and Joyce Olson were nominated by fellow residents and crowned King and Queen at the Valentine's Day celebration at Hovenden of Laurens. That evening, a special banquet

was held, with resident spouses in attendance. They served a choice of steak or chicken, twice baked potatoes, a choice of vegetable and a heart-shaped puff pastry dessert.



Pocahontas Ag Day, March 5

Pocahontas Ag day will be held on March 5th at the Rialto Theater and the Expo Center in Pocahontas. This is the sixth year that 10 sponsors from Pocahontas have brought Ag Day to the area. The day begins with Private Pesticide Applicator training from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Rialto Theater.

The group will then move to the Expo Center to view 15 agricultural exhibits and displays until 1:00 p.m. The displays are from local businesses in addition to ag chemical and seed companies that service the area.

Individuals who do not need to get their pesticide certification can join the day at the Expo Center at 11:00 a.m. or attend the afternoon program back at the Rialto Theater beginning at 1:15 p.m. The displays and afternoon program are free of charge.

Laurens Genies Meeting

The Laurens Genies will meet Friday, February 29th at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Lanore Thumma. The program will be "Autograph Books and Friendship Quilts-Clues to the Friends & Neighbors of Our Ancestors" presented by Grace Hertz. Roll Call will be: "Share a collection of autographs or a friendship quilt." Anyone who is interested in family research and genealogy is cordially invited to attend.

John Roach will be the featured speaker for the afternoon program beginning at 1:15 p.m. Roach is a market analyst, owns Roach Ag Marketing and is the Senior Analyst for the nationally syndicated public broadcasting program *Market to Market*, where he has appeared since 1978.

Roach writes a grain market commentary each morning and was honored to be one of sixteen brokers featured in the 1995 book, "*Master Brokers*", by John Walsh. The book was commissioned by the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

Sponsors for the Ag Day program are the Bob Johnson Agency, Inc., Citizens State Bank, Dixon Insurance Agency, Farm Bureau Financial Services, Iowa State University Extension, Pocahontas County Farm Bureau Federation, Pocahontas State Bank, Powers Insurance Agency, Inc., Pro Cooperative and Rolfe State Bank.

You won't want to miss Pocahontas Ag Day on Wednesday, March 5th!

Garden Extravaganza!

Plan to attend the Garden Extravaganza on Saturday, April 12, 2008 at the Pocahontas Expo Center from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be many garden exhibits, door prizes and items to purchase. Hourly presentations will begin at 9:30 in the fair office and will include the topics of butterfly gardening, stone planter construction, herb gardens and weed and insect control. Save the date!

Services Held Recently for Lyle E. Christensen

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, February 19 for Lyle E. Christensen of Laurens.

Lyle E. Christensen, age 58, passed away Thursday, February 14, 2008 at his home in Laurens, Iowa.

Lyle E. Christensen was born March 24, 1949, near Laurens, Iowa. He was the son of Knud and Sarah A. (Richardson) Christensen. He was educated at Laurens schools. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was stationed in Germany. He was discharged in 1970. Lyle settled in Laurens. He worked in the Laurens area as a machinist for several of the manufacturing plants. He retired recently due to poor health.

Survivors include his brothers, Dennis Christensen of Waynesboro, PA; Bruce Christensen of Chambersburg, PA and Carl Christensen of Sherman, TX.

Lyle was preceded in death by his parents and half brother, John William Kaufman.

REMINDER:

*Remember starting in March
The Paper will now be
delivered to you on
Wednesdays!*

*Deadlines will remain the
same for your submissions!*

*Look for next week's issue of
The Paper on
Wednesday, March 5th
instead of Tuesday, March
4th!*

Da Silva, Whitlock and Hopkins Honored at Hovenden of Laurens!

Our C.N.A. of the Year for 2008 is Stephanie Da Silva. She is a person that everyone can count on. She knows her residents and their schedules well and is accommodating to their individual needs. Residents ask for her by name and look forward to doing their therapy with her. She will always help out her co-workers without complaining and is here on her scheduled days. She is very knowledgeable about her job and does it with a smile. Even when she gets pulled from Restorative to help on the floor,

she keeps a positive attitude. She can cheer you up even in the most difficult circumstances, both staff and residents. Stephanie believes in our center and is very supportive of us in the community.

Our Staff Member of the Year for 2008 is Kim Whitlock, who has dedicated herself to our center as a Nurse. She and her residents know each other by name and are able to joke around as they go about their day. This nominee is prompt and tries to accommodate

others, while making schedules work for the Center. Her documentation is very thorough and exemplifies her professionalism and knowledge. This woman has done a wonderful job with her recent new responsibilities. She brings fresh ideas to committee meetings and most often stays positive and productive. She shows her motivation and willingness to learn through her current efforts of furthering her education. She has stated that when she is finished with this program, she wants to continue to advance herself through further educational opportunities and degrees.

Our Volunteer of the Year for 2008 is Delphine Hopkins. She began her volunteer services back in the 1960's. As a resident advocate, she has been actively involved in assisting in solving problems, being open and honest. As a friend, she will lend an ear, seek to resolve any

stated problem, assist with purchases, etc. For many years she drove residents to church for Sunday services. She has always been thoughtful of residents and staff. If she hears gossip about the facility that is negative, she is quick to ask if they have visited with the administrator. If the response is no; she asks "then how can they resolve your issue if they know nothing about your complaint?" She speaks very positively about this facility in the community. She always presents herself at the facility with a smile on her face. She seeks out residents and staff to check on how they are doing.

She understands the need for confidentiality. She is a willing, loving servant and has always been willing to go above and beyond the call of duty.

A few months ago she fell and injured her shoulder. As a result, she is not allowed to drive for a while and each time that I see her she tells me how

much she misses her regular visits to the facility. She is dependant upon family for transportation and looks forward to her returned independence and normal schedule in visiting our facility.

These nominations will be sent on to our National Campus in Sioux Falls, SD to be considered for this honor on a national level. The national winners will be honored at the

Society's Annual meeting in Sioux Falls in July.



Pictured left to right: Stephanie Da Silva, Delphine Hopkins and Kim Whitlock.

At the Library

With Glenda Mulder

February 26, 2008

We've received word from the Easter Bunny that she is going to be making a guest appearance at the Laurens Public Library on Saturday, March 22nd. The Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring this special story time. Plan to bring the kids or grandkids for a photo op, stories, and a craft.

Our new book discussion book is *Marley and Me* by John Grogan. It is a nonfiction book that the author describes as "Life and love with the world's

worst dog", a yellow lab they named Marley. The saga of life with Marley will certainly bring to mind many dog stories in our own lives. Karl Jirgens has volunteered to be our discussion leader for Monday, March 24th.

We got in a good selection of novels this week. Included are:

- *Honor Thyself* by Danielle Steel
- *Fast Track* by Fern Michaels
- *The Pajama Girls of Lambert Square* by Rosina Lippi
- *And Sometimes Why* by Rebecca Johnson
- *The First Patient* by Michael Palmer
- *Nameless Night* by G.M. Ford

- *Looking for Salvation at the Dairy Queen* by Susan Gilmore
- *Betrayal* by John Lescroart
- *Song yet Sung* by James McBride
- *Treasures* by Nora Roberts
- *Ice Trap* by Kitty Sewell
- *Judas Horse* by April Smith
- *An Irish Country Village* by Patrick Taylor

If you prefer nonfiction, you might enjoy *The Telephone Gambit: Chasing Alexander Graham Bell* by Seth Shulman or *Your Inner Fish: A Journey into the 35-Billion-Year History of the Human Body* by Neil Shubin.

Check it out at the Laurens Public Library!



Insurance Insight

With Woodley Insurance & Real Estate

Insurance doesn't have to be confusing! Look for us here each week as we briefly outline general insurance topics that will help shed light on some frequently asked insurance questions. If you have a specific question, give us a call!

ABC's of Auto Insurance

Coverage B: Medical Payment

This coverage provides payment for medical and funeral expenses caused by bodily injury at the time of an accident. Normally this coverage is provided for the named insured and any family member, as well as any

other person while occupying your covered vehicle. Coverage is also provided for the named insured and any family member as a pedestrian when struck by a motor vehicle.

Coverage amounts offered vary by company, but are typically from \$1,000 to \$10,000 per accident. This limit is the most the policy will pay regardless of the number of people, claims or vehicles involved.

Coverage is not usually provided for instances involving vehicles used for business, delivery, or residential purposes. Accidents occurring during the course of employment will also be excluded if workers' compensation benefits are available. Company specific exclusions will be found within the insuring agreement of your auto policy.

It is important that health care providers are informed of intent to file a claim under the Medical Payments portion of an auto policy. Bills will then be sent to your auto insurance carrier first, with any remaining balance sent to your health insurance carrier for consideration.

Next week's topic:
Coverage C Uninsured Motorists Coverage

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Local & School Calendar

Feb. 26-National Honor Society Induction at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center; Junior Parent Meeting at 8:00 p.m. in the Media Center; Jr. High wrestling at Cedar Valley at 4:00 p.m.

Feb. 28-10th grade Parent Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center.

Feb. 29-Jr. High wrestling with Manson/NW Webster at Barnum at 4:00 p.m.

Mar. 1-5th & 6th grade boys & girls L-M Booster Club basketball tourney at 8:00 a.m. at Laurens; High School Show Choir Festival at Emmetsburg.

Mar. 3-High School New York City Music Parent/Student meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Vocal Room; Spring MAP testing March 3-14.

Submit . . .

Submit. . . 100% of The Paper's articles are submitted by you - The Reader!! Take a minute to send us your news and photos too! **It's fun and it's FREE!**



Bethany Lutheran Receives Grant

Bethany Lutheran Church was the recent recipient of a grant from the Peterson Family Foundation of Des Moines, Iowa. The grant is part of a 3 year program whereby Bethany Lutheran will receive funding to assist in the formation and continuation of the position of youth leadership development.

Brenda Cleveland of Laurens has been retained to administer this program. Brenda will be directing various activities of a Christian nature and attempting to blend various cultures with our youth to form a base for the middle school and high school youth of the

community to become more active and better acquainted with their churches.

Qualities that will be stressed in these activities include tolerance, entertainment, learning and most of all the chance to experience a Christian environment that is safe and acceptable to these young people. Mentoring of our youth is also a part of the overall program being administered.

Earlier this month, Bethany held an AGAPE festival funded by the Peterson Family Foundation Grant. AGAPE is a Greek word that stands for God's unconditional love for us. During this activity, the youth learn about the different kinds of love, as found in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, and enjoyed an afternoon of food, fellowship, and crafts.



Pictured are Riley Oxenreider and Rhianna Aschenbrenner busy making Valentines for loved ones.

Local Students Named to UNI Dean's List

Lindsay Swalin and Samantha Fuchs, both of Laurens, are among many students named to the Fall 2007 Semester Dean's List at the University of Northern Iowa.

To be included on the list, a student must have earned a grade point of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale, while taking at least 12 hours of graded work during the semester. On the 4.0 system, an A is worth four points; a B, three points; a C, two points and a D, one point.

Lindsay Swalin is the daughter of Tom and Kim Swalin of Laurens and was a 2005 graduate of L-M High School. Lindsay is currently studying Social Work at UNI.

Samantha Fuchs is the daughter of Don and Nancy Fuchs of Laurens and was a 2006 graduate of L-M High School. Samantha is currently studying Elementary Education.

Our Town Our Paper!

Main & 2nd

For the last couple months, there has been quite a bit of commotion on the corner of Main & 2nd with the demolition of the old site in anticipation of the arrival of a new building for Iowa Trust & Savings Bank.

With the bitter cold that silences the earth, there is a silence on the corner also. The picture here shows you an update...let's say the calm before the storm!



From the Heart

Last week I had mentioned that I would talk about what to do with left-over wine; boy... did that bring excitement! Apparently there are a lot of people that just pour the wine down the drain. I hope these ideas that I use will be helpful.

Storing left over wine brings on many essays of the proper way to do it. The fact is, you want as little oxygen as possible to hit your wine. Some people pour it into a smaller bottle, some pump the air out, and others just re-cork it. I use a bottle stopper that pumps the air out. No matter what... your wine has already been exposed to outside air. The chemical changes have begun.

For red wine that is going on day 2 or 3 and is getting "questionable"; I make a "wine cooler" by simply adding ginger ale to my glass with the wine. This helps to take the vinegar taste away. Add a few chunks of fruit, or add a sangria mix to it.

Biggest Little Paper In Town!

White wine in the same condition, I again add ginger ale to my glass. I then add either pear nectar (can be found at our local grocery store) or peach nectar. Both will add a fruitier flavor and the ginger ale adds a little fizz.

When the wines have gone beyond the point of drinking...it is time to cook with them. It has not become vinegar, vinegar needs a "mother" to get the yeast going which the wine does not have. But the wine does have a vinegar-like smell and taste to it.

For red wine...add it to a beef roast. The acid in the fruit will break down the enzymes in the meat that will make it a very memorable meal. Simply marinate it with the wine. I like to add fresh garlic with sage and thyme to it.

With the white wine I like to make my version of "alfredo sauce". This sauce will be a little fruity and sweet...but very yummy. I use a brick of cream cheese in a sauce pan and start adding the wine very slowly until

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it is the consistency that I like. At the end I will put the zest of a lemon in it and if I place it on top of chicken and pasta, I will squeeze the lemon on everything as I plate it. White wine also makes a great marinade for chicken or fish. It has a very soft and zippy flavor, so remember not to go too strong on the seasonings.

A fruit (not grape) based wine does seem to last a little longer once opened. If you are at all concerned about your wine going bad, remember to invite over the ones that you love...they will probably be more than happy to help you drink your bottle!

*Remember to keep it from the heart,
Julie Wurr*



When Will This Winter End??

On Presidents' Day weekend we went to Indianapolis, Indiana to attend Brendan Villegas and Kristan Lewis' wedding and see Steve, Marion and Camille Roberts. The drive out there was fine, the wedding was beautiful, the visit with the Roberts went way too quickly, but the drive home was never ending!

The drive from Indianapolis to Moline, Illinois was pretty uneventful. All of that changed in a big hurry as we crossed into Iowa. The snow and wind started coming and just continued to get worse the closer to Iowa City that we got. We made it to our daughter, Lacey's apartment (getting stuck in the alley trying to get to the parking lot) and decided that we were going to be spending the night in Iowa City. My niece and her husband live in Iowa City, so after a quick phone call begging a bed, we spent the evening warm and dry.

Getting up and taking off by 6:45 a.m. Monday morning was another adventure. Driving from Iowa City to Cedar Rapids was horrendous! 20 to 30 m.p.h. was top speed. Cars and semis were in the ditch continuously. We stopped counting after about 150 vehicles in the ditch. The wind was blowing all of Sunday's snow so much that the visibility was practically zero. Sometimes I wondered what has happened to the global warming they are warning us about.

We did manage to make it safely back to Laurens in about 6 hours. The roads got better for about 50 to 60 miles around Webster City and Fort Dodge. Once we made it to Gilmore City, the winds had picked back up and made travel slow again. I for one, am more than ready for Spring this year!

Kelly Van Sickle



The newly married couple, Mr. and Mrs. Brendan Villegas.



Photos of the road conditions faced on their way home

The Chickadee Check-Off

“The beauty and genius of a work of art may be reconceived, though its first material expression may be destroyed but when the last individual of a race of living things breathes no more, another heaven and another earth must pass before such a one can be again.”

- William Beebe

Bobcats again slink unnoticed through the river valleys of Northwest Iowa.

Soaring bald eagles, six feet across, are now a frequent sight. Even the river otter is back, a delight to all who catch sight of one along our waterways.

Naturally, it is satisfying to hear that these animals are again living in our midst. But what was responsible for their return? And who is ensuring that the over 500 species of non-game animals living in Iowa are surviving and even thriving? Who protects them and the lands they need for their very survival?

Most people assume it's the government's job - that the folks at the Department of Natural Resources will take care of it. We pay taxes so we don't have to worry about these things.

However, Iowa currently ranks as one of the lowest states in spending on natural resources and the environment. Even so, it should still be surprising to find out that no state general fund tax money is used to support the Wildlife Diversity Program. Unlike game animals, which receive funding from hunting fees, the 80% of species that are not hunted or fished do not have such a system in place. Where is the money supposed to come from then - private individuals? Well, yes, actually.

In 1981, an item called the Fish and Wildlife Protection Fund, a.k.a. the “Chickadee Check-off,” was placed on the state's income tax form. It was Iowa's first check-off program and provided residents with the opportunity to give a dollar or more to support non-game animals through the Wildlife Diversity Program. 100% of the donations

from the checkoff are used to support the non-game program.

According to the Iowa DNR, the Wildlife Diversity Program directly supports a number of important goals: maintaining animal diversity in Iowa, encouraging public awareness of non-game species, and maintaining funding for non-game programs. These goals are accomplished through research and wildlife surveys, management of habitats on private and public lands, reintroductions of native non-game animals where possible, the acquisition of habitat essential to threatened or endangered species, and educating the public to raise appreciation of non-game wildlife.

Until 1993, the Chickadee Check-off brought in an average of \$200,000 annually from 16,000 people. Since then, however, contributions have steadily dropped, with only 10,000 Iowans giving a total of \$107,000 last year. Additional funding through direct donations and sales of publications and Non-game Support Certificates brought in less than \$30,000 more. In all, the amount is only a third of the \$350,000 a year the Wildlife Diversity Program needs to be fully funded. Less than half a million - not even a drop in the bucket when looking at the fiscal needs of our entire state. That works out to be around five cents for every man, woman and child.

It is sad to note that approximately 98% of tax returns do not designate any money for the Fish and Wildlife Fund. The result is that two percent of the tax paying public provided over three-quarters of the funding collected for this program.

So what is the bald eagle worth to you? Is it worth five cents? How about a butterfly, or any of Iowa's less glamorous animals such as the least shrew, the blue-spotted salamander, or the over a dozen species of endangered mussels and snails?

An average of ten cents per person would entirely fund the non-game program. And if every citizen added the minimal contribution of one dollar to the Chickadee Check-off on each of the 1.8 million state tax returns sent in each year, the Wildlife Diversity Program wouldn't know what to do.

Iowa individuals and households pay an average of \$1000 a year in taxes - one dollar would only be a 1/10th of one percent increase. That figure is an astoundingly low price to preserve Iowa's natural heritage.

Granted, not everyone is interested in the natural world outside their homes and cities. That may mean you decide to donate their share for them. If you don't, who will? Don't let other people decide whether or not you will have the opportunity to see these animals.

Look around the sky above your home. Let your gaze follow the red-tailed hawk as it hovers in the breeze, watching for its favorite meal - the rodents that dig up your lawn and live in your house. Sit in your yard and watch the spring songbirds as they flutter about, gobbling their weight in mosquitoes and biting flies. Foxes, owls, trumpeter swans, woodpeckers - all enrich our farms, neighborhoods and wildlands, and deserve more than just a picture in an old book.

Should these animals and lands be left to their own defenses? And if they are lost, then what would be the cost of their demise? What will we lose?

Whether you love these animals, or just like to occasionally see more than squirrels and starlings, please take the initiative. Unless we are willing to live with a perpetually long list of threatened and endangered species, we have to support the Chickadee Check-off and the Wildlife Diversity Program. We cannot afford to wait until government funding is available. We must do it ourselves.

Check the Fish and Wildlife box on your Iowa tax return, or tell your tax preparer to do so, and support our non-game animals. It is found as “Fish/Wildlife” on line 13 of the short form, or “Fish & Wildlife Fund” on line 58 on the longer 1040. One dollar, two dollars, even ten dollars; it really goes a long way.

“The last word in ignorance is the man who says of an animal or plant: ‘What good is it?’ If the land mechanism as a whole is good, then every part is good, whether we understand it or not.”

- Aldo Leopold, 1949, *A Sand County Almanac*

Clay Steele is an interpretive naturalist with the Pocahontas County Conservation Board.



Laurens United Methodist Church

Wed. Feb. 27

11:30 a.m. ~ Lenten Lunch @ Lutheran Church

7:30 p.m. ~ Sr. UMYF

Thur. Feb. 28

3:30 p.m. ~ Kid's Club @ Christian Church

Fri. Feb. 29

7:00 a.m. ~ Men's Bible Study

Sun. March 2

One Great Hour of Sharing (offering)

9:00 a.m. ~ Sunday School

9:30 a.m. ~ Fellowship Coffee

10:30 a.m. ~ Worship

7:00 p.m. ~ Choir practice

Mon. March 3

7:00 p.m. ~ Quilt Club

This Week at Bethany

Wednesday, February 27th

11:30 AM: Lenten Luncheon @ Bethany

4-5:30 PM: Affirmation of Baptism Classes

6 PM: Lenten Soup Supper @ Grace Lutheran, Marathon

7 PM: Lenten Workshop @ Grace Lutheran, Marathon



Tues. March 4

7:30 p.m. Kiwanis Practice

Wed. March 5

11:30 a.m. ~ Lenten Lunch @ Christian Church

4:00 p.m. ~ Confirmation

4:30-7 p.m. ~ Men's Soup & Pie Supper

7:30 p.m. ~ Sr. UMYF

Thur. March 6

1:30 p.m. ~ UMW Special Membership Meeting

3:30 p.m. ~ Kid's Club @ Christian Church

Fri. March 7

7:00 a.m. ~ Men's Bible Study

2:00 p.m. ~ World Day of Prayer @ UMC

Sat. March 8

7:00 a.m. ~ UM Men

9-11:30 a.m. ~ Bridal Shower for Briana Finley

Thursday, February 28th

3:30-5 PM: Kids Club @ First Christian Church

Friday, February 29th

7 PM: Middle School Movie and Game Night

Sunday, March 1st

Fourth Sunday in Lent

9 AM: Morning Worship with Communion

10 AM: Coffee Fellowship

10:15 AM: Sunday School and Adult Sunday School Classes

Worship, Love, Accepted ~ Together in Christ's Name



Living in God's amazing grace

Our Town Our Paper!

This Week at Evangelical Free Church

Wednesday, February 27:

6:00 AM Timothy Team

9:00 AM MOPS

6:30 PM Adult Bible Study

Adventure Club

7-Up (Jr. High)

Thursday, February 28:

1:00 PM FISH

6:30 PM Christian Education Board

Friday, February 29:

1:30 PM Music & Worship Committee

Sunday, March 2:

8:30 AM & 10:45 AM Morning Worship

9:45 AM Sunday School

4:30 PM Timothy Team

5:30 PM U-Turn (High School)

7:00 PM Evening Service

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Thank You

The L-M After-Prom Committee would like to thank ALL who attended and/or donated money towards the Spaghetti Dinner/Comedian Night on February 16th at the Laurens Golf and County Club.

Thanks to the many parents and individuals who gave their time and energy to make this a successful fund raising event. We would also like to recognize the following companies and organizations for their contributions:

Barilla

Food Pride of Laurens

BXT (Big Ten Tours)

Jayne's Headquarters

Laurens-Marathon School

Laurens Golf & Country Club

Positech, Inc.

Rotella's Italian Bakery, Inc.

The Lodge Inn



*Don't Stand so Close to That
T.V. ... You'll Hurt Your Eyes!*

Happy 50th!

Love,

A, C, B & C

Send your news to

**The
Paper!**

Thank You

A big thank you once again to everyone for the prayers, calls, cards and caring since my recent Mayo visit and my return home. I so appreciate you all!

God Bless,

Carolyn Garton

**Happy 21ST
Birthday Amber!**



**Love,
Mom and Dad**

Laurens 5th Grade Girls BB Wins at Royal

On Saturday, February 23, the Laurens fifth grade girls basketball team traveled to Royal to compete in a four team round robin competition.

The Laurens girls finished first in the pool defeating Clay Central Everly, Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn I and HMS II to claim best team honors.

The team is coached by Jon Jensen and Pete Runneberg.



Photo by Jerry Runneberg. Left to right: Addy Boettcher, Megan Jensen, Destini Oehlertz(4th grade), Sydney Kay(4th grade), Brooke Runneberg, Bailey Luchsinger and Haily Runneberg.



Chargers Advance to Sub State

The Chargers started their road to Sub State with the Newell Fonda Mustangs on Saturday, February 16th at 2:30 p.m. in Laurens, a team that the Chargers had beaten twice before in the regular season. The third time around turned out just the same, with the Chargers ending out on top with a final score of 66-49.

Next the Chargers were up against the ranked Alta Cyclones on Tuesday, February 19th at 7:00 in Laurens. The Chargers had been beaten by the Cyclones twice in the regular season and were looking for a different end result this time. The third time was a charm for the Chargers with a final game score of 40-38!

On Thursday, February 21st at 7:00 the Chargers took on AR-WE-VA at Buena Vista. The Chargers came out DISTRICT CHAMPS with a final score of 48-42. Way to Go Chargers! On to Sub State!

Saturday, February, 23rd the Chargers took on the George-Little Rock Mustangs at 7:00 in Spencer. After a hard fought, well played game the Chargers came up just short to the Mustangs, losing 55-51.

You young men have nothing to hang your heads about! What an excellent season you had! We are all looking forward to watching you again next year!

Congratulations Chargers on Advancing to Sub State and on an Excellent Season!

Great Company Looking for Great People!

Country Maid, Inc. is a service provider and frozen foods manufacturer who operates primarily in the fundraising market. We provide services to and manufacture frozen food products for our national network of dealers. As a growing company we have a strong desire to provide even greater services to our dealer network which warrants the need for additional team members!

ACCOUNT MANAGER

This person should enjoy working in close contact with customers, building intimate client relationships, and have a desire to help others succeed.

Position Objectives:

To direct, promote, and coordinate the business efforts of assigned territories in a manner that will grow to an optimum level the company's market share and profitability, improve the company's efficiency, help achieve the company's mission and goals, and result in outstanding customer service.

Position Responsibilities:

The Account Manager is responsible for driving Country Maid, Inc.'s (CMI's) sales growth in assigned territories by orchestrating business growth for CMI's customer dealerships. The Account Manager will identify, recruit, select, train, coach, motivate, develop, and retain dealerships in assigned territories.

Qualified candidates will possess a Bachelor's Degree OR demonstrate equivalent experience in the sales and marketing profession. Proficiency in Microsoft Office and other computer-based contact management programs is a must.

MARKETING COORDINATOR

This person should be a creative, self-motivated individual with a passion for design, detail and a desire to work with the Marketing & Sales Team to create communications pieces and other creative works for Country Maid, various company brands, and our dealer network.

Duties and responsibilities may include:

- Graphic design and page layout
- Web design, development and maintenance
- Video planning and development
- Providing marketing support to dealers

Knowledge of the following is suggested:

- InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop
- Dreamweaver or similar web authoring program
- HTML, XHTML, CSS, JavaScript
- Premiere Pro or similar video editing program

Qualified candidates will possess an Associate's degree or higher in Graphic or Web Design, Communications, or similar degree OR demonstrate equivalent experience in the graphic, web, and multimedia development fields.

If you feel you would be a good fit for either of these positions, please send a cover letter and résumé to Nancy Umsted via email: nancy.umsted@countrymaid.net or via mail: 205 3rd Ave. NE, West Bend, IA 50597.



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY BOSS!

**Happy 50th on Monday,
March 3rd!**



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**Leap Year
Champagne & Auction
Celebration!**

Laurens Golf & Country Club

When: Friday, February 29th, 2008

What: "Hoppy Hour" - 5:00-7:00
with Champagne and Hor Dourves.
Auction - 7:00pm

*Some Auction
Items Received:*

- Message	- 2 quilts	- John Deere
- \$50 gift Certificate to King's Pointe	- Oak Quilt Rack	- Collector Toys
- Scrap Booking items	- Italian Basket	- Meat Grinder
- Womens denim shirt	- Prime Rib Dinner for 8	- Prints
	- Tastefully Simple	- Premier Designs Jewelry

Where: *Laurens Golf & Country Club*

Entertainment!

Join us for Karaoke with
Nathan Brazel from 9 to 12 am



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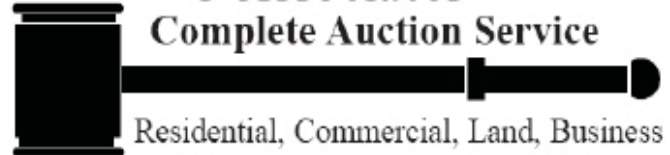
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Tax Preparation and Accounting: The Bottom Line, Kristy Mather, 712-845-2311. Reasonable rates, electronic filing. 2 miles East of Laurens on Highway 10. Watch for the Iowa State Cyclone mailbox.

Announcements

Bridal Registry at JH Design
Briana Finley & Jason Foster.
Shower March 8th at the Laurens Methodist Church. Wedding May 31st.

Come and Go Bridal Shower A come and go bridal shower will be held for Briana Finley, bride elect of Jason Foster on Saturday, March 8th from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the Wesley Room at the Laurens United Methodist Church. The couple is registered at JH Design in Laurens and on the online bridal/gift registries at bedbathandbeyond.com and target.com. Please bring your favorite recipe to share with the bride-to-be.

Announcements

Country Club Thursday Night Special. The special for February 28th will be chicken drummies with potato and lettuce salad. *Public Welcome!*

Help Wanted

The City of Laurens is now taking applications for two seasonal staff members. Duties include mowing, weed-eating, recycling, yard work, painting, and other various tasks. Up to 40 hours per week. Interested individuals may pick up applications from Julie or Jillian in City Hall.

The City of Laurens is now taking applications for pool manager and summer lifeguards. Basic certification is needed, WSI is a plus. Individuals may pick up applications from Julie or Jillian at City Hall.

Albert City Library Hiring Director
The Albert City Library is now hiring a library director. Must be certified now or within two years. Call (712)-843-2012 for application.

DRIVER NEEDED for a ride to the VA Hospital in Fort Dodge on Wednesday, March 5th. Need to leave Laurens around 9:00 a.m. Please call Joe Thoma at 841-2290. Thanks!

For Sale

For Sale: Several pick-ups. 1996-2000 models. Half and ¾ ton. Regular and extended cabs. All less than 100,000 miles. Ranging in price from \$3,000 to \$8,000. Call (712) 841-2427.

For Sale: TV Stand. Swivel Top, Pull Out Shelf, Doors Below. 28x17x30, Oak. \$50. Like New Condition. Call 335-4773.



REMINDER:

Remember to look for next week's issue of The Paper

on

*Wednesday, March 5th
instead of
Tuesday, March 4th!*

*Deadlines remain the same
for your submissions!*

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